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12 July 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Recontact of Staff Officer, [] by Former []
Station Agent, Tscherim Soobzokov []

1. Background: The subject of this memo is a Circassian who left the Caucasus during the fighting between the Germans and the Soviets in that area during World War II. As best I can recall he claims he fought in the German Army against the Soviets for a time and then at the end of the war became a stateless refugee in the Balkans where he fell into British hands. As I dimly remember his story, he led a small group of similar persons in an escape from British custody, traveled down into Italy and from Italy clandestinely by freighter to Egypt and thence to Amman, Jordan, where a pre-World War II Circassian refugee community had been established under the benevolent aegis of the late King Abdullah. Subject has used a number of aliases during his career and the file would probably reflect both Anglicized and Arabized versions of his true name. I believe his age to be in the late forties. He was originally recruited as an agent of the [] Station by the first Chief of that Station [] in approximately 1950. I was his case officer during the bulk of my tour in [] from 1951 to 1956. Subject and I left Jordan about the same time and on my return to Headquarters I served as the Jordan desk officer during 1957. I seem to recollect that sometime during 1957 or early 1958 Subject was again employed on a confidential basis by the Agency or some arm of the government. It is possible that I may have seen Subject during that period or talked to him on the telephone in connection with his being a cleared for this other employment. Subject himself refers to having worked for the Army in Maryland in 1958. I imagine he is also known to the FBI. In any case I had not seen or heard from Subject from about 1958 until a few weeks ago, as described below:

2. In about the third week of June 1974 I received a phone call through my [] cover number from a member of the staff of Congressman Robert A. Roe (Democrat, 8th District, Passaic County, New Jersey). After confirming that I was the officer of the same name who had served with the [] in the 1950's my caller stated that an old friend by the name of Tscherim Soobzokov was trying to locate me and had asked Congressman Roe's office for assistance. The Congressman's

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assistant provided me with Soobzokov's telephone number and readily assented to my request that my number not be given to Soobzokov; that I would call him.

3. A day or two later I telephoned Soobzokov at his home in the evening. He informed me that he was experiencing considerable anxiety because his name was included in a list of some thirty-seven alleged Nazi war criminals surfaced in the New York Times as the result of an attack on the Department of Justice's Immigration and Naturalization Service by Congresswoman Holtzman of New York City. Holtzman has accused I&NS of failing to actively pursue and resolve cases which have been brought to its attention sometime previously. Soobzokov asserted that this was naturally distressing to him as a loyal immigrant citizen of the United States who had served the government honorably in the past, as his record would reflect. He asked me for advice (note: he did not ask for assistance at this juncture, only advice as to what he should do). He provided me with the date of the Times article, and I told him to relax and do nothing until I could look into the matter and call him back after a few days.

4. After locating a copy of the original article (see Attachment A) I notified and sent copies of the article to NE Division and the Office of the General Counsel in the person of [redacted]. I was disturbed to hear from NE Division personnel that Soobzokov could not be located under the cryptonym which I remembered positively (NOSTRIL or NOSTRIL/1) and furthermore that no file could be located on his name. Further checking over the next several days revealed that at some juncture and for reasons not explained Soobzokov's cryptonym had been changed to AEDEPOT/6, and further that Subject's file had been lost.

5. Based on my conversations with [redacted] of OGC I called Soobzokov back after several days and suggested to him that the whole affair might easily blow over and be forgotten, and that any strenuous effort on his part to combat the charge or to force revelation of the source of the allegations against him might eventually work to his net disadvantage, and that therefore I suggested that he play it cool and do nothing pending some further development. He informed me that another development had already occurred, namely the publication on July 1st of a second article, a follow-up on the original article in the New York Times (see Attachment B). He stated that his apprehension concerning the whole affair was increasing. I said I would call him back again in a few days. I discussed the matter further with [redacted] and we agreed that while one step which we might consider taking would be to approach the Immigration and Naturalization Service through an existing Agency high-level liaison contact, our first step should be to alert a more senior echelon in the command line, namely the DDO's office.

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6. Soobzokov beat me to the punch, phoning me again on the evening of July 10 to report that his job is now endangered as a result of the foregoing events. Although Soobzokov enjoys a good relationship with Congressman Roe's office, doubtless as a result of his position of leadership in the Circassian community centered in the Passaic-Patterson area, his job in the Passaic County Government is dependent upon the county party machinery in which Congressman Roe apparently has little influence. Soobzokov's immediate supervisor, up for reelection in November, has suggested to Soobzokov that because Soobzokov's connection with the New York Times stories may make him a political embarrassment for the county machine, Soobzokov might want to consider taking several months leave (presumably leave without pay). Soobzokov expressed his reluctance to do this, and so far as I know nothing has happened except that Soobzokov has once again approached us for "advice".

7. Comment: It seems to me that there is significant flap potential in this situation, inasmuch as I think Soobzokov will, if he feels himself in serious danger of some grave sanction such as the revocation of his naturalization, begin to cash in what he considers to be certain "chips" that he holds: namely, his record of clandestine collaboration with this or other agencies of the United States Government. If in defending himself he were to surface the fact he had once worked for CIA, and given the present climate of intense media interest in anything having to do with CIA, it would seem likely that both the vote-hungry Congresswoman from New York and the Pulitzer-hungry journalist would very quickly zero in on the story and milk it for all it's worth. Soobzokov has not actually suggested that he would even consider doing this, nor has he specifically and directly asked us for any tangible assistance. But the fact that he has now reported to us that his job is in danger suggests to me that such a request may not be far off.

8. Footnote: In the course of my three conversations with Soobzokov it has become clear that he holds a fairly substantial file concerning his own past history, at least with respect to allegations previously made against him. As he remarked to me, when he was in Jordan he was suspected of being a Soviet agent; now that he is in the United States he is suspected of being a former German agent; if he goes to Europe he will no doubt be suspected of being an American agent. His file contains material documenting at least one of the sources (if there are more than one source) of the allegations connecting him with Nazi war crimes. This particular source is a mentally unstable person who has since left the United States. The allegation or allegations which cause Soobzokov's name to be included in the list of thirty-seven cases held by Immigration and Naturalization Service are believed to go back some years. Soobzokov has assumed a posture of outraged innocence (a posture he adopts quite convincingly) and has made

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numerous attempts to smoke out the nature and source of the various allegations. Congresswoman Holtzman's office does not return his telephone calls. Justice Department claims that the action is in the hands of the Immigration and Naturalization Service. The Immigration and Naturalization Service apparently would like to unload the blame on the State Department. No one is prepared to tell Soobzokov exactly what he has been accused of.

9. Apparently responsible for the investigation of Soobzokov's case is an officer named Pomeroy of the I&NS Newark office. His telephone number in Newark is 645-2368.

C/CH/FCB

Attachments:
As stated.

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We'll turn your



The report says that some of the alleged war criminals cited by Representative Holtzman to be tried as the world war of other countries, "also says that the agency has investigated others only to find 'no derogatory information.'"

GIVING IS JOY. GIVE
TO THE FRESH AIR FUND.

The report says that some of the alleged victims of the Bremer kidnaping, including the two men who died as the result of the hijacking, also say that the "bounty" has not been paid.

Mr. Chapman also said in his report that the "bounty" was possible.

Philadelphia — Mikolaj Kowalewski, Serhi Kowaczuk, Vladimir Oudak
Chicago — Romanus Levitsky, Antoni Virkutis, Jucius Jucis
San Diego — Edgar Lapentis, Josephine — Jucis Jucis
Los Angeles — Jucis Jucis, Tamas Tamas, Neda Paskevicius, Alina Maskevicius, Dagis Babrov, Serhi — Edmund Rice
Pittsburgh — Valerius Maskevicius, Robert — Antoni Bernotas
Buffalo — Antoni Bernotas, Antoni Bernotas, Antoni Bernotas
Houston — Jucis Jucis

Transis

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Fugitives From a Pursuing Past, They Live Hidden Among Us:

The Nazis Next Door

By PAUL MESKIL

(Part of a Series)

HUNDREDS of suspected Nazi war criminals have found sanctuary in the United States, secure in the knowledge that there is almost no chance they will be booted back home to stand trial.

During a month-long investigation, The News obtained the names of 122 alleged World War II criminals, all former Nazis or members of pro-Nazi groups, who are now living peacefully and often prosperously in this country. At least 38 of them are believed to be residing in the metropolitan area. Most haven't even bothered to change their names, although some have been sentenced to death or life imprisonment in their homelands. Among them are former concentration camp commanders and guards, members of SS death squads and officials of Nazi puppet states in eastern Europe. Between them, they are said to be involved in hundreds of thousands of deaths.

The Immigration and Naturalization Service recently announced that 10 residents of the New York City area are under investigation as a result of war crimes allegations. They are:

• **Jacobs Braxatla**, reported living in Brooklyn; **Lew Futala**, Yonkers; **Sergis Huttyreysk**, New Brunswick, N.J.; **Emanuel Jasiuk**, Passaic, N.J.; **Karl Linnas**, Great Neck, L.I.; **Boleslaus Malkovskis**, Mineola, L.I.; **Simon Ridenenko**, Manhattan; **Jonas Slepelys**, Queens; **Techerim Soobrokov**, Paterson, N.J.; **Jaques Sumyk**, New York City. Among the other suspects whose names were given to the News are:

• A Manhattan doctor who allegedly performed medical experiments on concentration camp inmates in Croatia.

• A woman now living in Manhattan, who served as a prisoner-trustee or "kapo" in Maidanek death camp, Poland. Maidanek survivors told the News she lashed female inmates with a bull whip and helped the German guards make selections for the gas chambers.

• A Philadelphia man described as a former Ukrainian police chief and Nazi collaborator who sent 14,000 Jews from Rawa-Ruska, near Lodz, to Belzec death camp.

• A Hungarian immigrant, believed living in Texas, who allegedly invented an automatic method of destroying bodies removed from gas chambers.

• A Pennsylvania farmer accused of

direct involvement in 1,592 murders in Kaunas (Kovno), Lithuania.

• A New York commercial artist who allegedly was a Nazi SS officer at Treblinka camp, where an estimated 750,000 people were slaughtered.

• A former Latvian police official who became an instructor in Nazi-run spy schools in Latvia and Germany.

• A West Coast clergyman accused of taking part in the liquidation of Jews.

• Several former Nazi SS and Gestapo stooges now spending their twilight years in New York City and its suburbs.

Except for those under active investigation by the INS, the names of suspects are being withheld because they have not been charged with any crimes in this country. However, all 25 names on The News list will be made available to appropriate agencies.

This list is far from complete. Some people on it may be innocent; others may have died or left the country. No single source has the names of all war crimes suspects now living in America. Persons familiar with the subject are: crime researchers, professional Nazi hunters, immigration agents, survivors

(Continued on page 66)

The Nazis Next Door

(Continued from page 3)

of Hitler's holocaust—eliminate the number of fugitive fascists in the United States at from 500 to several thousand.

"No one knows how many of them are here," says Vincent Schiano, the former Immigration Service attorney who successfully prosecuted Hermann Braunstein, Ryan, "I would say thousands."

Mrs. Ryan, a Nazi concentration camp guard who became a Queens housewife, was the only war criminal ever extradited by the U.S. to a foreign country. The publicity given her case persuaded the INS to dust off its old files on other suspects—but no further action has been taken against any of them.

One of the first cases to be reopened as a result of the Ryan prosecution was that of Boleslaus Malkovskis, 70, a Long Island carpenter who was sentenced to death in absentia in 1955 by a war crimes tribunal in the Soviet state of Latvia.

Malkovskis, a former Latvian police official, and his wife came to the United States in 1951 as displaced persons. They eventually bought a home in Mineola, L.I., and lived quietly there until 1966 when the Soviet news agency announced his conviction and sentence for mass murders committed during the German occupation of Latvia in World War II.

The Soviet government requested Malkovskis' extradition in June, 1965. Request was denied, but the INS began investigating Malkovskis' wartime activities. According to present and former immigration agents and other sources, this is what happened:

The investigator assigned to the case, Sidney Pass, prepared a file on Malkovskis and started searching for witnesses and evidence to indicate whether he had made false statements when he applied for admission to the U.S.

Told to Close the Case

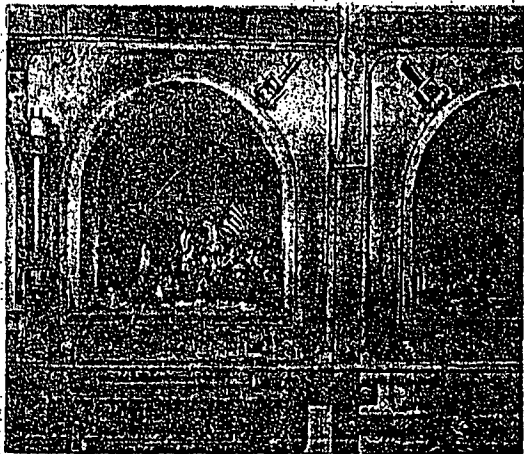
Before he could complete his inquiry, Pass received a call from the INS Central Office in Washington. He was ordered to close the Malkovskis case, although he was working on several promising leads. No explanation was given for the Central Office decision.

To cover himself, Pass added a brief note to the Malkovskis file. It said he was terminating the probe "pursuant to instructions" from Wilbur Plugg, assistant commissioner for investigations.

The case, closed in 1966, was reopened 6½ years later by Anthony DeVito, the veteran investigator assigned to the Ryan inquiry. And then the mystery deepened.

In November 1972, during the Ryan investigation, I got information about Malkovskis. DeVito told The News, "I checked the New York office files (where his record should have been kept) but found no listing for him. Then I checked with Central Office and eventually learned that the Malkovskis file was in the Detroit office of INS. This was unusual for Malkovskis had never worked in Detroit."

INS officials in Detroit told me they didn't know why the file was buried there. They were not even aware that it was in their office. If a Detroit investigator had requested the file in connection with a Midwest phase of the original inquiry, there should have been a record of who asked for it and why. There was no such record in the file when I retrieved it."



DeVito put the file in a cabinet of his office on the 14th floor of the New York INS headquarters, 20 W. Broadway. Then, before he had a chance to examine it, he took a leave of absence.

"While I was gone," DeVito said, "the file was removed on orders of Ben Lambert, chief of investigators for the New York office. He kept it for 2 1/2 months. Then U.S. Attorney Robert Morse heard about the case, which was in his jurisdiction, and started asking questions."

Morse mentioned the case to a reporter who asked Sol Marks, then New York district director of the INS, what was being done about Malkovskis. Marks said he had assigned DeVito to conduct a thorough investigation.

"The first I know I had been assigned to the case officially," DeVito said, "was when I read it in the newspaper. I got the Malkovskis file back from Lambert and went over the contents with Sid Pass. He immediately noticed that the document he had placed there, saying the case had been closed by the central office, was missing."

In May, 1973, less than two months after he was assigned to the Malkovskis case, DeVito was suddenly transferred to the suburban section of INS and given such a heavy workload that he was unable to continue the investigation.

Frustrated and disillusioned, he resigned after 23 years as a federal investigator.

"Ultimate solution of Jewish problem was ultimate Nazi horror: events at Buchenwald."

Says Probe Was Blocked

"There was strong resistance at the INS top command in the Ryan case," DeVito charged during two long interviews. "But there was outright blockage of the Malkovskis investigation. My superiors made certain that I could not possibly proceed with the inquiry."

The Malkovskis case has not been closed again, however. It is being kept alive by such interested parties as the Survivors of the Riga Ghetto, whose New York members recently demonstrated outside the neat, tree-shaded Malkovskis home at 232 Grant St., Morningside.

Documents in his INS file indicate Malkovskis graduated from a Nazi-run police training school and became chief of the 2d Police Precinct, Rzeszów, Latvia. In this capacity, he allegedly sent a memo to the vice-prosecutor of Daugavpils Regional Court on Jan. 9, 1942. It said: "On the 23 of January, the village was burned to the ground and the inhabitants all shot of these 30 were publicly shot in the Rzeszów marketplace."

Witnesses interviewed by INS investigators and The News have accused Malkovskis and two of his Latvian colleagues of responsibility for some 15,000 deaths, including all 198 residents of Audra village, which was completely destroyed.

Malkovskis has been active in Latvian-American groups and served as an alternate delegate to the Assembly of Captive European Nations. Since the Riga survivors picketed his home, however, he has been staying out of sight.

On a sunny Sunday morning two weeks ago, a car stopped at the entrance to his driveway. A reporter got out and saw Malkovskis standing in front of the garage at the rear of his house. As the newsman approached, Malkovskis scurried into the house. His wife finally answered the front doorbell and said he wasn't there.

Asked about the charges of the Riga survivors and the war crimes tribunal, she replied: "I don't know anything."

She declined to say anything about her husband's past, referring all questions to his lawyer.

The INS file on Malkovskis contains this comment from DeVito: "When weighing subject's possible complicity in the war crimes allegations, it must be frankly stated that the evidence against him thus far is most persuasive. Given a free hand, I feel confident an abundance will be assembled to show a degree of guilt exceeding that of . . . Hermann Brunsteiner Ryan."

The Malkovskis case was among those mentioned by Rep. Elizabeth Holtzman (D-Brooklyn) when she charged recently that the INS had "failed to initiate proceedings against any reported war criminals" and "had not interviewed a single witness" since the Ryan probe.

INS Commissioner L. P. Chapman denies these charges and said Rep. Holtzman the name of "of 27 individuals who comprise our current Nazi War Criminals list."

These 27 names are included in The News list of 123 suspects. Since the INS list was released last month, the Immigration Service has added about 15 more suspects.

The INS list includes such well-known names as Andrija Artukovic, former interior minister of Croatia; Bishop Valerian Trifa, head of the Romanian Orthodox Episcopate of America; and Roman Catholic Bishop Vincentas Brizga of Chicago. Three Protestant clergymen from Latvia also appear on the list.

(Tomorrow: Suspects in suburbia)

The Immigration and Naturalization Service has released the names of 27 individuals who comprise our current Nazi War Criminals list. They are:

LIVING IN METROPOLITAN AREA

Jozas Brazaitis, New York	Dolcslaus Malkovskis, Long Island
Lew Patola, Westchester	Simon Ridsenko, New York
Sergis Butyrsky, New Jersey	Jonas Slepetya, New York
Emanuel Jasuk, New Jersey	Tcherim Soobokov, New Jersey
Karl Linna, Long Island	Joannes Sumyk, New York

FILES IN NEW YORK INS OFFICE

Andrija Artukovic	Kazys Palejuskas
Vincencas Brizys	Karlis Sautins
Janis Ernsts	Hubert Strughold
Peteris Nessule	Viard Trifa

INS FILES IN OTHER CITIES

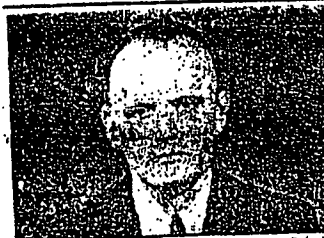
Antanas Berholas, Hartford	Edmund Mace, Seattle
Daniel Dobrow, Los Angeles	Valeris Maskellunas, Pittsburgh
Antanas Burkunas, Buffalo	Aleksis Maskellunas, Los Angeles
Lazlo Ilcov, Houston	Vladimir Osdach, Philadelphia
Jozas Jurkailis, Chicago	Mecis Paahkinvicius, Los Angeles
Mikolaj Kowaleczuk, Philadelphia	Alexander Ris, Miami
Serhij Kowaleczuk, Philadelphia	Michal Szumski, Buffalo
Edgars Leipenicks, San Diego	Jaroslav Teacowycz, Los Angeles
Romualdas Levickas, Chicago	Antanas Virkulis, Chicago
	Petrus Zilionis, Boston

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PHOTO MOUNTING SHEET

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SUNDAY NEWS
14 July 74



Gustav Macc



Peteris Nesauls



Karlis Sautins

Those men, all accused of
being Nazi collaborators, are
believed to be in this country.